

NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 17, 2010 - 8:30am–9:00pm
Nevada Indian Commission
5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701

Commissioners Present:

Theodore Quasula, Chairman (Teleconference)
Richard Arnold, Vice-Chairman (Teleconference)
Sharon Frederick, Commissioner (Teleconference)
William Oliver, Commissioner
Mary Ann McAuliffe, Commissioner (Teleconference)

Staff Present:

Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director
Chris Gibbons, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present:

Wayne Howle, Solicitor General, Attorney General's Office

I. Convene Meeting & Roll Call

Chairman Quasula convened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and asked Sherry to take roll. Five Commissioners were present, establishing a quorum.

II. Invocation

Sherry Rupert provided the invocation.

III. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Quasula thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

IV. Swearing In and Seating of Newly Appointed Commissioner – Mary Ann McAuliffe

Chairman Quasula had Sherry administer the oath to newly appointed Commissioner, Mary Ann McAuliffe. Chairman Quasula welcomed Ms. McAuliffe to the Board.

V. *Approval of Nevada Indian Commission Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report

Chairman Quasula commented that he read the annual report cover to cover and it is outstanding; obvious thought had been put into the report.

Sherry gave some brief comments on the need for the report. Because of impending budget reductions it is very important that the Commission be able to articulate the work that has been accomplished and the importance of the agency. Sherry has a meeting with the Governor-Elect on Monday and will have an hour to plead her case. She will share the annual report, information on the tribal governments, provide a briefing on the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) and the Indian Health Board of Nevada (IHBN) issues and information on our budget. A second meeting (following this meeting) will include the Governor-Elect, his Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada and the Indian Health Board of Nevada.

Commissioner Arnold asked if Sherry had spoken to the ITCN and IHBN about emphasizing the importance of the NIC. Sherry was confident that this issue will be brought up by the entities at the meeting on Monday.

Commissioner Frederick commented that she would think that the State of Nevada would be very interested in occupying the 2 buildings at Stewart to keep up on the maintenance and prevent vandalism. She recommended stressing that point in the meeting.

Sherry reminded the Board that the Governor-Elect and his staff are probably not aware of the work that has been accomplished at Stewart or the deed provisions. Sherry has included a copy of the deed in her briefing documents for the Governor-Elect.

Solicitor General, Wayne Howle commented that this is a very critical point. Keeping the Commission in the buildings and keeping the buildings devoted to the use intended is critical to the State's ownership of the property. If that use should cease, then the State stands to lose the entire campus, not just the 2 buildings. The campus could revert back to the U.S. Mr. Howle would be happy to comment to that effect if called upon.

Chairman Quasula inquired if Mr. Howle knew if the new administration was aware of this point. Mr. Howle replied that the Governor-Elect may not be aware, but some of his staff may. He was confident that they would easily understand what is at stake. The Chairman advised that this is a point that needs to be made in the meeting. Sherry assured the Board that she definitely intended to discuss this point.

Commissioner McAuliffe commented that losing ground like that will alter the economic development angle for tourism at Stewart. She further commented that the Commission (and Stewart) cannot be lost.

Commissioner Oliver motioned to approve the NIC Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report, seconded by Commissioner Frederick. The motion passed with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).

VI. Scheduling and Location of Next NIC Meeting

The next Nevada Indian Commission Board meeting will be held on January 14, 2011 (1:30-4:00pm) at the Legislative Building in Room 3100 following the Tribal Legislative Training Day.

VII. Public Comments

Chairman Quasula commented that he thought it was a giant step forward for the new administration to meet with the NIC and the tribes early on. Sherry mentioned that the transition team has reached out and is looking to the Commission for guidance. She recommended the Governor-Elect meet with all the tribal leaders and she was recently informed that the Governor-Elect has chosen to accept the recommendation and will meet with all of the tribal leaders in February.

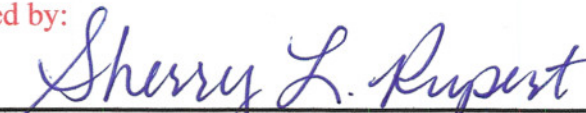
VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner Arnold motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Frederick. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent). Meeting was adjourned at 9:00a.m.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that these Meeting Minutes were approved at a meeting of the Nevada Indian Commission with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions, 0 absent, at a meeting duly held on January 14, 2011.

Certified by:



Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director
Nevada Indian Commission